



## Edith P. Oliver

January 22, 1912 - May 2, 2010

Edith Louise Porter Oliver, age 98, of Springfield passed away Sunday, May 2, 2010 at NHC Healthcare in Springfield.

She was born to Frank Charles Porter and Leotta Ann Robertson Porter on January 22, 1912 in Adams, Tennessee. Edith was a member of the First United Methodist Church. She was active in her Sunday School Class and the United Methodist Women and served on the Kitchen Committee for 30 years. Edith was well known for her exceptional cooking and baking. She always opened her home to friends (and strangers) for a wonderful, home-cooked meal. Famous for her apple pies and angel food cakes, Edith was encouraged to write a cookbook at the age of 90. It contains her treasured recipes and is a legacy to her culinary talents. Although she was a homemaker most of her married life, she worked for Rena's Specialty Shop in Springfield as a seamstress for nearly 10 years. She also taught sewing classes in her home and altered clothing for hundreds of people during the years.

She was also known for her craftsmanship. Edith enjoyed making drapes, costumes, formals, wedding dresses, baby and doll clothes as well as hundreds of cross-stitched and crewel pictures, pillows and quilts. In 1964 she was asked to make the cape for the Homecoming Queen for Springfield High School. It was used as the Queen's cape until it was destroyed in a fire in the 90's.

Edith never missed a chance to offer help to a friend. She often brought meals to shut-ins, family and friends. Always devoted to her husband, Herschel, of

over 75 years, she helped care for him for twelve years after his stroke, staying by his side until his death in 2007. After moving to NHC Healthcare in January of 2007, she became a favorite of the staff.

She will always be remembered by her family and friends as a woman who chose to do God's Will and prayed ceaselessly for her family and friends. One of her favorite sayings was, "God will never give you more than you can bear. His strength will always be enough to get you through anything you must face."

She is survived by her sons, James C. Oliver of Springfield, Colonel (R) John H. Oliver and wife, Sue Vick Oliver of Clarksville and daughter, Jeannie Oliver Burch and husband, Ray Burch of Irvine, CA. She has four grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and three step-grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Frank C. Porter and Leotta Ann Robertson Porter; a brother, Oscar Porter; two sisters, Grace Porter Randolph and Ann Porter Apple; and her husband, James Herschel Oliver.

The funeral service will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Springfield on Saturday, May 8, 2010 at 2pm. The graveside service will be at the Adams Cemetery by the Red River Baptist Church. Visitation will be held Friday, May 7, 2010 at Austin & Bell Funeral Home in Springfield from 4-8pm and again at the church on Saturday from 1pm until the time of service.

The family has requested contributions be made to the First United Methodist Church, NHC Healthcare of Springfield or Caris Healthcare of Springfield. All donations may be made in c/o Austin & Bell Funeral Home.

# Tribute Wall

EB

“ Jeannie,  
I am sending my prayers to you and your brothers. I know your  
Mother will be missed by all who knew her.  
In Christ,  
Ellen

---

**Ellen Pitt Barfield** - May 06, 2010 at 08:16 PM

NL

“ Miss Edith was a very talented lady. She taught my friends and I to  
make blazers one summer at her home. Of course the fabric came  
from the Woolen Mill. We had lots of fun.  
I also remember many visits when she and Mr Hershel were still in  
Adams living with her Mother, Mrs. Porter across 41N from Aunt  
Annie and Uncle Carl.  
She and my mother were always friends as they both went to Bell  
School and grew up in Adams.  
My thoughts are with the family as they celebrate her long life. The  
memories will linger and you will be at peace knowing she now with  
the saints and our blessed Lord.  
Mother and I shared the pew with Miss Edith and Mr. Hershel for  
years. He went forward to recieve the offering each Sunday.  
Nancy Williams Lewis

---

**Nancy Williams Lewis** - May 06, 2010 at 04:57 PM

SH

“ She was a lovely woman. My best to her family.

---

**Shelley Rosson Hagler** - May 04, 2010 at 02:02 PM